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The Homeland Security News Briefing

TO: THE SECRETARY AND SENIOR STAFF

DATE: THURSDAY, JULY 5, 2018 5:00 AM EDT

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Leading DHS News:

14,000 NEW US CITIZENS SWORN IN AROUND JULY 4. The large number of naturalization ceremonies held around the nation around the July 4 holiday generated limited national news coverage, but extensive local coverage of individual events.

[ABC World News Tonight](#) (7/4, story 9, 0:20, Llamas, 14.63M) reported that 14,000 new American citizens were sworn in Wednesday in “175 naturalization events at historic locations all around the country.” [ABC News](#) (7/4, Venkataramanan, 1.85M) reports that the “number of people becoming citizens between June 28 and July 10 marks a slight decrease from last year, when nearly 15,000 people took the oath, according to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, but a sharp increase from 2016, when about 7,000 did so during the same time period.”

[Fox News](#) (7/4, Carbone, 16.38M) reports that on “this Independence Day, naturalization ceremonies will turn 14,000 immigrants into proud new American citizens.” USCIS “will welcome them in about 175 ceremonies across the country on the Fourth of July, according to the American Immigration Council.” Fox adds that “despite the Trump administration’s controversial travel ban and rhetoric regarding immigrants, a total of 163,000 people have been naturalized during fiscal year 2018 – a 55 percent increase from the same time last year.”

In its round-up of July 4 events, the [AP](#) (7/4) reports this “was the first Fourth of July that many people were able to call themselves U.S. citizens after participating in naturalization ceremonies across the country.” For example, in New Hampshire, “more than 100 people from 48 countries became U.S. citizens during a ceremony at the Strawberry Banke museum in Portsmouth as part of the museum’s annual American Celebration. A ceremony also was held aboard the USS New Jersey, where dozens of people from countries including Vietnam and Bangladesh were sworn in.”

[CNN](#) (7/4, Eliahou, Sanchez, 82.6M) reports that the “emotionally charged ceremonies, which typically occur in the days before and after Independence Day, mark the end of long journeys and the fulfillment of dreams. They also coincide with President Donald Trump’s widely condemned policy of separating families at the border. Still, the new citizens stood to sing the National Anthem. They read aloud the Oath of Allegiance, printed on a small white card in their citizenship packets. And 140 words later, they were naturalized citizens.”

[CNN](#) (7/4, 82.6M) runs a series of interviews with immigrants who became citizens, focusing on their individual experiences. On its “All Things Considered” show, [NPR](#) (7/4, Chang, 3.55M) similarly looks at some of those naturalized this week. [USA Today](#) (7/3, 11.4M) runs a photo montage of new citizens.

Here’s a significant sample of the extensive local coverage that the various ceremonies received:

Naturalization Ceremonies Held Across North Carolina. [Spectrum News Southern Tier](#) (7/3, Blair) reports that in a time “when the topic of immigration is at the forefront of debate in our state and country, a special group of people are spending their July 4 holiday this year not only celebrating our country’s history, but also becoming U.S. citizens.” Naturalization ceremonies “are taking place in three North Carolina cities on July 3 and July 4 this year, as eager immigrants join thousands of other across the country becoming US citizens,” and USCIS’ Pamela Wilson discussed the process with them.

[WTVD-TV](#) Raleigh-Durham, NC (7/4, Kaplan) reports that it “was a scene that definitely could’ve pleased the Founders: men and women celebrating their independence while pursuing a life of happiness. Against a backdrop of a flag-draped State Capital in Raleigh, 27 immigrants completed their naturalization and officially became citizens of the United States. The new citizens emigrated from 17 different countries, including China, India, Mexico and Russia, among others.” The [Raleigh \(NC\) News & Observer](#) (7/4, Bonner, 477K) reports that Marcos Castells, “a supervisory immigration services officer for the Raleigh/Durham Citizenship and Immigration field office, said he had worked in bigger offices in Dallas and Miami, but the Triangle has ‘one of the most diverse immigrant population I’ve ever worked with.’” [WRAL-TV](#) Raleigh, NC (7/4, Owens, 238K) reports that 25 people “took an oath Wednesday in downtown Raleigh to become naturalized citizens of the United States. At the North Carolina State Capitol and surrounded by in red, white and blue, the 25 people from 17 different countries took part in the ceremony.”

The [Greensboro \(NC\) News & Record](#) (7/4, Newell, 207K) reports that 49 people became citizens at the Old Salem Visitor Center. [WFMY-TV](#) Greensboro, NC (7/4, Brewer, 59K) focuses on Melvin Chua, “who finally became an American citizen after 26 years” at the ceremony. His “long journey began in 1992 when he moved from Singapore to the United States to go to school at Arizona State University. He says getting a work visa after graduating was a challenge. ‘A lot of people don’t want to sponsor you for the H-1B. As soon they find out that they have to do that, that’s a lot of hassle. So that’s the biggest hurdle,’ says Chua.” [WUNC-FM](#) Chapel Hill, NC (7/4, Martinez, 11K) reports that Old Salem “is, fittingly, where Moravian settlers first turned Independence Day into a party in 1783. Instead of a basic proclamation, the German Protestant immigrant community decided to throw a proper celebration, with music and everything. The living museum there partners with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to host a naturalization ceremony there every year.” The [Winston-Salem \(NC\) Journal](#) (7/4, Newell, 172K) also reports on the Old Salem ceremony.

[WWAY-TV](#) Wilmington, NC (7/3) reports that elsewhere in North Carolina, “nearly 80 new Americans were given legal

status in Southport after months and even years of going through the process.”

200 Become Citizens In NYC. The [New York Post](#) (7/3, Mongelli, Lapin, 4.46M) reports that they “came to the Big Apple from 50 countries – some living here for decades – and on Tuesday, they fulfilled their dream to become American citizens. Waving the Stars and Stripes during a naturalization ceremony at the New York Public Library in Midtown, 200 newly minted US citizens beamed and cheered after taking an oath to seal their new official status.” [Newsday \(NY\)](#) (7/3, Moon, Colangelo, 1.52M) reports the “candidates were cheered by family members as their names were called and they received certificates. Many said they were not deterred by anti-immigrant sentiments that have risen across parts of the U.S.” The [New York Daily News](#) (7/3, 3.71M) runs a similar report, as does [12-TV](#) Brooklyn, NY (7/3, 112K).

Two Ceremonies See 555 People Naturalized In Arizona. [KTVK-TV](#) Phoenix (7/4, Reimer, 173K) reports that “on this very patriotic holiday, hundreds of new Americans are celebrating for the first time as U.S. citizens. On the Fourth of July, two naturalization ceremonies were held in the Valley. One was in Mesa, and one in south Phoenix. In all, 555 people from nearly 100 countries earned their citizenship.” [KSAZ-TV](#) Phoenix (7/4, 37K) also reports on the Arizona ceremonies. The [Arizona Daily Star](#) (7/4, Davis, 296K) reports that USCIS “welcomed 21 people as new citizens at a naturalization ceremony in Saguaro National Park on Wednesday.” [KVOA-TV](#) Tucson, AZ (7/4, Murillo) reports that 20 “Tucsonans from eight different countries officially became United States citizens.” The [Arizona Republic](#) (7/4, Frank, 1.21M) reports that “hundreds of people became new U.S. citizens on Independence Day during a ceremony in downtown Mesa just hours before the July 4 fireworks. It was the fourth consecutive year that the Mesa Celebration of Freedom festival included a naturalization ceremony, which this year brought together 313 people from more than 50 different countries.”

Almost 500 New Americans “Minted” In Seattle. The [Seattle Post-Intelligencer](#) (7/4, Connelly, 528K) reports that “almost 500 newly minted Americans from 84 countries, two dozen of them already serving in the U.S. military, swore their oath of citizenship in a moving 34th annual Independence Day Naturalization Ceremony at the Seattle Center.” Gov. Jay Inslee said in a speech, “Every year I get to see the faces that are replenishing democracy.”

58 Become Citizens In Charleston. The [Charleston \(SC\) City Paper](#) (7/4, Manno) reports that the “outdoor ceremony could have easily doubled as a wedding...except that this marriage was between 58 people from 27 different countries and a few founding documents.” The piece adds that there “was hardly room for anything but unwavering patriotism. The Star-Spangled Banner inspired everyone to instinctively stand, unlike spectators at a football or baseball game.”

Many Veterans, Military Among Those Naturalized On USS New Jersey. The [AP](#) (7/4) reports that 42 people from 26 different nations took the oath of allegiance on Wednesday aboard the battleship USS New Jersey in Camden, New Jersey. [NJ News](#) (7/4, Everett, 1.17M) reports that at least 10 of those sworn in were either in the military or were veterans. The [Camden \(NJ\) Courier Post](#) (7/4, Whittaker, 141K) reports that US Sen. Cory Booker “was present to help welcome the new citizens, and the U.S. Navy Color Guard posted the colors. In fact, eight of the new citizens are members of the military.” It was “part of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services’ annual Independence Day celebration.”

Among 50 New Citizens Naturalized Aboard USS Midway, Many Military Personnel. The [Times of San Diego](#) (7/3, Jennewein) reports that “fifty people, most of them active-duty military, became citizens Wednesday in a naturalization ceremony aboard the USS Midway in San Diego harbor.” The [San Diego Union-Tribune](#) (7/3, Morissey, 664K) reports that military service members “and a few of their spouses took oaths to become U.S. citizens on Tuesday aboard the USS Midway Museum as part of Citizenship and Immigration Service’s celebration of Independence Day.” [KNSD-TV](#) San Diego (7/3, Adan, 147K) reports that Cris-Anne Stewart Palmer, a US Navy servicemember, said, “It’s an honor to really be a part of something so great and it’s very welcoming to know that right before July Fourth, Independence Day, I’m becoming a citizen of the United States.”

Nearly 80 Become Citizens In Salinas, California. [KAZU-FM](#) Monterey Bay, CA (7/3, Almanzan) reports that in Salinas, California, “77 people took the Oath of Allegiance to become American citizens.” Rep. Jimmy Panetta told the crowd, “The oath that you just took it is not to a bloodline or a body of land. That oath is to a body of principles, a devotion to a set of demanding and common ideals that are based the human spirit for liberty and justice. That is the foundation of this great enterprise we call the United States of America.”

76 Become Citizens On USS Hornet. [KGO-TV](#) San Francisco (7/3, Didion, Ashley, 235K) reports that on the deck of the USS Hornet in Alameda, California, 76 immigrants from 31 countries became citizens. For many, “the day capped a journey of determination and promise. And now the responsibility of free speech and voting in a new country now banning travel for some and building walls to keep out others.”

At Saratoga Battlefield, 20 Become Citizens. The [Albany \(NY\) Times Union](#) (7/4, Crowe, 399K) reports that the 20 newest citizens “who were sworn in at an Independence Day ceremony at the Saratoga National Historical Park

Wednesday said they now gain a voice in determining the nation's future – just as the colonists did when they defeated a British army at the Battles of Saratoga in 1777.”

30 Become Citizens At World War II Museum. [WWL-TV](#) New Orleans (7/3, Steiner, 67K) reports that 30 were sworn in as citizens at the National World War II museum on Tuesday. The ceremony “in the Big Easy is one of 175 others nationwide that is expected to welcome 14,000 new citizens. The ceremonies are part of the USCIS’s annual Fourth of July celebrations.” [WVUE-TV](#) New Orleans (7/3, Wong, 31K) reports that US District Judge Susie Morgan “delivered a keynote speech about the history and importance of immigrants to America.” She said, “Your diversity is our strength. As the American Historian Arthur Schlesinger wrote, the genius of America lies in its capacity to forge a single nation from peoples of remarkably diverse racial, religious and ethnic origins.” [WDSU-TV](#) New Orleans (7/4, 50K) also reports on the ceremony.

152 Become Americans In Central Massachusetts. The [Worcester \(MA\) Telegram & Gazette](#) (7/4, Owen, 201K) reports that it was a “special July Fourth at Old Sturbridge Village as 152 new citizens took the oath of allegiance during a naturalization ceremony on the Common amid the village’s Independence Day activities.” The new citizens came from 52 countries.

58 Become Citizens In Northampton, Massachusetts. The [Daily Hampshire \(MA\) Gazette](#) (7/4, Christensen) reports that it took Carmen Quiroz “more than 18 difficult years to become a U.S. citizen after immigrating from Ecuador,” but it was “worth the wait” as she joined 57 others sworn in on Wednesday in Northampton, Massachusetts.

Monticello Hosts 56th Annual Naturalization Ceremony. The [Charlottesville \(VA\) Daily Progress](#) (7/4, Wrabel, 83K) reports that at Monticello, Thomas Jefferson’s Albemarle County, Virginia, home, 67 people from 35 countries became citizens at the 56th annual Independence Day Celebration and Naturalization Ceremony. The piece highlights comments made by Andrew Tisch, co-chairman of Loews Corporation. The [New York Times](#) (7/4, Cochrane, 19.33M) reports there “was subtext to this naturalization ceremony at Monticello, where the legacy of a Founding Father is being rewritten to acknowledge that Jefferson, a slave owner, failed to truly include all when he wrote ‘all men are created equal.’” In addition, “looming even more prominently over the ceremony was President Trump’s push for an immigration crackdown, the Supreme Court’s decision to uphold the Trump administration’s travel ban and the outcry over family separations at the border.”

Almost 600 Become Citizens In Lowell. The [Lowell \(MA\) Sun](#) (7/4, Tuitt, 114K) reports that “more than 500 candidates for United States citizenship excitedly sat in the Lowell Memorial Auditorium on Wednesday.” US District Court Judge Indira Talwani “said there were 585 new citizens in the auditorium from more than 70 countries. As Talwani read the name of each country, those who called it their homeland rose and remained standing until all were standing.”

15 Naturalized At Bendelier National Monument. [Santa Fe New Mexican](#) (7/5, Edge, 38K) reports on a naturalization ceremony at Bendelier National Monument, where 15 immigrants became citizens. Speakers “at the ceremony, including Bendelier Superintendent Jason Lott and Armijo, urged the citizens to get involved with their communities, to vote and to use their new status to make the best possible future for their families – specifically, their children.”

More Than 100 Naturalized In New Hampshire. The [AP](#) (7/4) reports that “more than 100 people have celebrated Independence Day in New Hampshire by becoming U.S. citizens. The Wednesday naturalization ceremony took place at Strawberry Banke in Portsmouth as part of the museum’s annual ‘American Celebration.’” The ceremony was attended by Sens. Jeanne Shaheen and Maggie Hassan, along with Gov. Chris Sununu.

Annapolis Welcomes 30 New Citizens. The [Annapolis \(MD\) Capital Gazette](#) (6/5, Ferguson III, 57K) reports that after an “early morning Independence Day naturalization ceremony at William Paca House in Annapolis, 30 people from across the globe no longer yearn to breathe free. They came from 22 countries – from Kenya to China, Bolivia to Nepal – to find a new home in Maryland. Now they are all Americans.”

48 Become Citizens In Georgia. [WXIA-TV](#) Atlanta (7/4, Darnell, 218K) reports that on Wednesday, 48 people from 31 countries “took the oath of citizenship Wednesday morning at the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library.”

20 Naturalized In Upstate New York Town. The [Glens Falls \(NY\) Post-Star](#) (7/4, Kuczkowski, 47K) reports on the stories of 20 newly-minted Americans in Stillwater, New York.

Prosperous Restaurant Owner Becomes Citizen In August, Georgia. The [Augusta \(GA\) Chronicle](#) (7/3, LeBlanc, 167K) reports that Jason Yang “arrived in the U.S. 18 years ago with a dream of someday opening a restaurant. Now, he has four.” Yang “became a citizen June 19, the same date he married his wife, Jane Zhang, 13 years ago and opened his fourth restaurant, Teriyaki Japan in North Augusta, three years ago.”

Greeley Hosts Ceremony, Sees 30 Become Citizens. The [Greeley \(CO\) Tribune](#) (7/3, Knuth, 73K) reports on the story of Vanessa Garfield, a Philippine immigrant, who was one of 30 who became citizens in Greeley, Colorado.

19 Become Citizens In Winter Park, Florida. [WOFL-TV](#) Orlando, FL (7/4) reports that “the Fourth of July this year was a special day for more than a dozen Central Florida residents, as it is the first day they will celebrate the holiday as American citizens. The ceremony, which took place Wednesday morning, was part of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Annual Independence Day Celebration in Winter Park. 19 people from 12 different countries will become America’s newest citizens.”

Orlando’s “Queen” Of Soccer Becomes Citizen. The [Orlando \(FL\) Sentinel](#) (7/2, Diaz, 593K) reports that Kay Rawlins, “the Queen of Orlando Soccer,” became a citizen earlier this year.

31 Earn Citizenship On Guam. [KUAM-TV](#) Dededo, GUM (7/3, Paco) reports that for “for some it’s the biggest day of their lives – (and no, we’re not talking about getting married). It’s a different kind of commitment – one to the United States of America. In a very special ceremony at the District Court of Guam on Tuesday, 31 men and women took the Oath of Allegiance.”

DHS News:

NIELSEN URGES CONGRESS TO BLUNT GROWING DRONE THREAT. In an op-ed for the [Washington Post](#) (7/4, Nielsen, 15.68M), Secretary Nielsen writes, “Drone technology offers the potential to change our world – from enabling historic transformations in e-commerce to faster emergency response,” but “the technology also has a dark side,” as it “can be used to spy on us, to threaten our critical infrastructure, or to attack crowds and public places.” Nielsen adds, “For years, the Department of Homeland Security has worried about the dangers of unmanned aerial systems, and we have sought the legal authority to protect Americans against corrupted aerial devices,” and “today I have a pressing message for Congress: Time is running out.” Nielsen argues that that “threat is outpacing our ability to respond,” and that “without congressional action, the U.S. government will remain unable to identify, track and mitigate weaponized or dangerous drones in our skies.” Nielsen contends that DHS “should be able to access signals being transmitted between a nefarious drone and its ground controller to accurately geolocate both quickly,” which “could allow authorities to take control of the device or stop its operator on the ground to prevent a potential attack.”

IMMIGRANT MOTHERS MOVED OUTDOORS DURING NIELSEN VISIT TO DETENTION CENTER. The [Intercept](#) (7/3, Devereaux, Nathan, 55K) reports DHS Secretary Nielsen “made a series of secretive visits to South Texas immigrant detention centers on Friday. One of the facilities the secretary visited, in Los Fresnos, houses parents whose children were taken from them.” Many of the detainees there are women, and “many desperately wanted to speak with Nielsen. Instead, they were moved to a distant soccer field, where they shouted to Nielsen for help but were too far away for her to hear them.” ICE “confirmed to The Intercept on Tuesday that more than 60 women were moved during the secretary’s visit,” though the agency claimed the move was for the purpose of “recreation.” [The Hill](#) (7/4, Anapol, 2.71M), the [New York Post](#) (7/3, Jaeger, 4.46M), and the [Huffington Post](#) (7/4, Frej, 4.32M) run similar reports based on the Intercept’s reporting.

Border Security:

TEXAS MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO POINTING LASER AT CBP HELICOPTER. The [McAllen \(TX\) Monitor](#) (7/4, ZAZUETA-CASTRO, 93K) reports that Apolonio Barrera Padron “pleaded guilty on Tuesday morning to one count of aiming a laser pointer at an aircraft during a mid-February event near Hidalgo.” The report says that “in exchange, the government, represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney David A. Lindemuth on Tuesday, agreed to reduce Barrera’s criminal offense level by two levels at the time of his sentencing, court records show.” The Monitor explains that the charges came “after U.S. Border Patrol agents arrested him at his residence in Hidalgo after a beam of light illuminated the cockpit of a U.S. Customs and Border Protection helicopter in February.” Meanwhile, the judge “accepted Barrera’s plea and set his sentencing for Sept. 10, where he could face a maximum of five years in federal prison, with a possible three years of supervised release, and up to a maximum \$250,000 fine.”

BORDER PATROL AGENTS IDENTIFY POSSIBLE HUMAN-TRAFFICKING VICTIMS IN ARIZONA. [KYMA-TV](#) Yuma, AZ (7/3, Morillo) reports from Yuma, Arizona, “Yuma Sector Border Patrol agents assigned to the Yuma Central Processing Center identified two unaccompanied alien children believed to be victims of human trafficking on Sunday at approximately 9:30 a.m.” Agents “arrested eight subjects after they illegally crossed into the United States near the San Luis Port of Entry and were then transported to the Yuma Central Processing Center.” According to KYMA-TV, “A BP agent interviewed one of the subjects, a 16-year-old male, who gave a written phone number for a person he claimed was

a relative living in the U.S.” The agent “called the number and spoke to a female who claimed to be the relative,” and “after questioning, the agent was able to establish that the female was not in fact a relative and was impersonating one in hopes of having the juvenile released to her.” KYMA-TV adds, “The juvenile eventually admitted that the woman was not a relative, and that his parents had arranged for him to be smuggled from Guatemala to Michigan in order to perform unspecified work for an unidentified person.”

Aviation Security:

TSA SAYS LAST FRIDAY WAS SECOND-BUSIEST DAY IN HISTORY. The [Washington Post](#) (7/4, Kunkle, 15.68M) reports the Transportation Security Administration confirmed June 29, the Friday ahead of Independence Day, was the second-busiest day in the agency’s history. TSA said 2.67 million air travelers passed through airport checkpoints that day, “the highest number since more than 2.7 million passengers were screened on the Sunday after Thanksgiving in 2004. The agency also said that the week of June 24 to 30 was the busiest on record.”

Immigration Policy:

WHITE HOUSE AGAIN TARGETS DEMOCRATS CALLING TO ABOLISH ICE. The [Washington Post](#) (7/3, Wagner, Viebeck, 15.68M) reports that “for a second day in a row, the White House used its official Twitter account to take aim at Democratic lawmakers who have spoken out against its immigration policies.” The latest targets were Reps. Earl Blumenauer and Mark Pocan, who announced last week that they would introduce legislation to abolish ICE. In one [tweet](#), the White House said, “@repblumenauer, why are you supporting something that would protect drug smugglers? You must not know what CBP and ICE really do.” The White House added a link to a recent press release “about the seizure of a large amount of crystal methamphetamine by Customs and Border Protection.” In a second [tweet](#), the White House asked, “@repmarkpocan, are you supporting human smuggling? You must not know that ICE serves as the leading U.S. law enforcement agency responsible for the fight against it.” The White House provided a link to an ICE webpage about “moving human beings as cargo.”

The [AP](#) (7/3, Thomas) says the White House “is using its official Twitter handle to target Democratic lawmakers who have criticized President Donald Trump’s immigration policies, drawing complaints that government resources are being used to undercut potential 2020 presidential rivals.”

The [Washington Post](#) (7/3, Sonmez, Wagner, Viebeck, 15.68M) reports that the White House on Tuesday “escalated its attacks on Democrats for their calls to abolish” the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The Post adds, “Trump suggested this past weekend that the Democratic calls to abolish ICE would hurt the party in the midterm elections because ICE targets violent gangs.” The public outcry over the Administration’s policies “has prompted dozens of lawmakers to make visits to inspect government-run shelters for migrant children,” and on Tuesday, Matt Bassett, HHS assistant secretary for legislation, “wrote a letter to the chairmen of the Senate and House Judiciary committees stating that the multiple visits have put a strain on the department’s staff.”

The [Boston Globe](#) (7/3, Halper, 945K) reports that Sen. Edward J. Markey (D-MA) “on Tuesday joined a growing chorus of Democrats who have called for overhauling Immigration and Customs Enforcement, calling the agency a ‘deportation army’ that must be dismantled and reconstructed. ‘It’s meant to be there in order to protect against drug dealers, to protect against human traffickers,’ Markey said at a press conference. ‘It’s not meant to have every person walking the streets of our state or our country waiting for their case to be heard to be fearful that they can be apprehended in the middle of the night.’”

[The Hill](#) (7/3, Samuels, 2.71M) reports that Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT) on Tuesday “called for restructuring Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) as part of a broader immigration overhaul, but he stopped short of calling for the elimination of the federal agency.” According to The Hill, “In a series of tweets, Sanders escalated his rhetoric opposing ICE, part of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), as more lawmakers on the left call for the agency to be abolished. ‘In 2002 I voted against the creation of DHS and the establishment of ICE,’ Sanders tweeted. ‘That was the right vote. Now, it is time to do what Americans overwhelmingly want: abolish the cruel, dysfunctional immigration system we have today and pass comprehensive immigration reform.’ ‘That will mean restructuring the agencies that enforce our immigration laws, including ICE,’ he added. ‘We must not be about tearing small children away from their families. We must not be about deporting DREAMers, young people who have lived in this country virtually their entire lives.’”

The [San Francisco Chronicle](#) (7/3, Garofoli, 3.29M) reports, “Count California gubernatorial candidate Gavin Newsom as being in the ‘reform’ but not the ‘abolish’ camp when it comes to what should be done with the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency.” The Chronicle adds, “President Trump ‘has transformed ICE into a cruel deportation force, one that targets and detains children and law-abiding families with the same intensity as high-level criminals,’

Newsom said Tuesday in a statement to the Chronicle. ‘The agency needs fundamental reforms, and most of all, we need a president who respects immigrants and their families.’” According to the Chronicle, “That position puts Newsom in the same neighborhood as another California Democrat, Sen. Kamala Harris, who called last week for ‘starting from scratch’ with an overhaul of the 15-year-old agency.”

In an analysis piece for [NBC News](#) (7/3, 5.76M), Jonathan Allen writes, “President Donald Trump’s base voters didn’t like it when he beat a retreat on the policy of separating undocumented families at the border,” and “they were so dead set against ‘amnesty’ provisions in a House immigration bill he backed that he later falsely claimed that he had never lobbied on it.” Allen adds, “Overall, Trump has lost so far on his core immigration promises: to build a border wall, force Mexico to pay for it and vastly reduce both legal and illegal migration to the country,” but “his allies say he’s found a huge political winner, for the midterm elections and his 2020 re-election bid, in the call by some prominent Democrats to ‘abolish ICE.’” ‘There’s long been division in the Republican Party on the issue of immigration, but the one thing everyone can agree on is the Democrats are crazy for wanting to abolish ICE,’ said a former Trump White House official who spoke to NBC on the condition of anonymity to discuss the president’s strategy.”

In an analysis piece for the [Washington Times](#) (7/4, Bruce, 460K), Tammy Bruce writes, “The problem with this new demand by the Democrats is that ICE has nothing to do with controlling the borders. It’s the U.S. Customs and Border Protection agency (CBP) that manages access to the country.” ICE “is responsible for enforcing immigration laws within the country,” and “this is why Mr. Trump began tweeting at various Democratic politicians, asking them why they wanted to abolish the entity that was taking on the murderous MS-13 gang.” Bruce adds, “In the end, this is not an organic movement of any sort, but a typical leftist organizing tactic with which to raise money, distract voters and ‘win’ the news cycle.”

Pocan, meanwhile, writes in [USA Today](#) (7/3, Pocan, 11.4M) that abolishing ICE “does not mean that the United States will suddenly be overrun with crime or that we’re abandoning law and order. Under my plan, critical law enforcement functions of ICE – including fighting terrorism, organized crime, human trafficking and drug trafficking – would be transferred to other agencies that already handle these issues effectively.” He argues that “we cannot allow the president’s rhetoric, threats and outright lies stop us from doing what is right.”

[USA Today](#) (7/3, Board, Today, 11.4M) editorializes that “with President Donald Trump and the Republican Party so thoroughly abandoning the political mainstream, Democrats have an opportunity to position themselves as the ascendant party for years to come. But that assumes they don’t commit their usual blunders, which they appear to be doing right now on immigration with an ‘Abolish ICE’ campaign.” The campaign, it argues, “is a non-starter.”

Trump: Democrats Will Lose Because Of Stance Against ICE, “Law Enforcement.” The [Washington Times](#) (7/3, Muñoz, 460K) reports President Trump on Tuesday “confirmed he’s working on the Supreme Court pick and also took a swing at Democrats over immigration.” The President’s opportunity to nominate another judge to the Supreme Court “has riled Democrats, who he criticized” in a [tweet](#). Said the President, “How can the Democrats, who are weak on the Border and weak on Crime, do well in November. The people of our Country want and demand Safety and Security, while the Democrats are more interested in ripping apart and demeaning (and not properly funding) our great Law Enforcement!”

[Politico](#) (7/3, Nelson, 3.51M) reports the President also “defended” ICE “against growing calls for the agency to be abolished.” Trump [tweeted](#), “When we have an ‘infestation’ of MS-13 GANGS in certain parts of our country, who do we send to get them out? ICE! They are tougher and smarter than these rough criminal elements [sic] that bad immigration laws allow into our country. Dems do not appreciate the great job they do! Nov.” [Breitbart](#) (7/3, Moons, 1.28M) says Trump “slammed Democrats...for not appreciating ICE,” while [The Hill](#) (7/3, Greenwood, 2.71M) reports the President’s tweets “came as some Democrats have started to call for ICE to be abolished amid an intensifying controversy” over the Administration’s “zero tolerance” immigration policy.

The [Washington Free Beacon](#) (7/3, Lehman, 67K) reports on the “growing” calls to abolish ICE, adding that some Democrats – such as Sens. Bernie Sanders, Tammy Duckworth, and Richard Blumenthal – “oppose the movement.”

Tumulty: Calls To Abolish ICE Benefit Trump. Karen Tumulty writes in the [Washington Post](#) (7/4, 15.68M) that while “Abolish ICE” has “become the new rallying cry of the left,” ICE “is not responsible for what we’ve seen at the border in the past few months, particularly the heinous practice of separating parents from their children.” Tumulty argues that blaming “a faceless agency is to give a pass to Trump’s ‘zero-tolerance’ policies and to the hateful rhetoric that has helped create a political environment in which some Americans find this acceptable.” In addition, “Democrats are making it all too easy for Trump and his allies to falsely portray a call to abolish ICE as another way of clamoring for open borders.” Trump wants to fight “over security and law enforcement, rather than massive detention centers and frantic parents who cannot find their children,” because it is a fight “he can win – and Democrats calling to eliminate ICE will have given him a potent weapon with which to do it.”

Ben Jealous Won't Support "Abolish ICE" Movement. The [Washington Times](#) (7/4, Muñoz, 460K) reports, "Ben Jealous, a gubernatorial candidate in Maryland, broke with other Democratic nominees Tuesday over the 'Abolish ICE' movement. 'Look, we need an immigration system,' he said during an interview on The Hill TV's 'Rising,' 'It's like "abolish prisons." I understand the emotional aspect of it, but I don't understand how that would work.'" Jealous "explained that dismantling the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency wouldn't accomplish much when policy remains an issue."

Rep. Capuano Denies Supporting "Abolish ICE." The [Boston Herald](#) (7/4, 363K) reports, "Rep. Michael E. Capuano says reports that indicated he wants to dismantle the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency were false – the Somerville Democrat said he is not joining the push by other members of his party, including his primary opponent." Capuano "was cited as one of the pols looking to abolish ICE in a report in The Hill, a Washington, D.C., political news publication, and in a Herald column." Capuano "has tried to walk a line of highlighting his opposition to ICE's establishment in 2002 while not calling for its abolition now. 'My focus is on reuniting children with their parents and stopping Donald Trump's hateful policies ripping families apart,' Capuano said in a statement. 'I voted against the creation of ICE. However, changing who enforces bad policy now doesn't fix that bad policy and it won't bring families back together. The policies being enforced are more important than the agency enforcing them.'"

"ABOLISH ICE" PROTESTERS ARRESTED AT STATUE OF LIBERTY. [WABC-TV](#) New York (7/4, 315K) reports on its website that police "evacuated Liberty Island of tourists after a woman climbed to the base of the Statue of Liberty. ... Reports of a person scaling the statue started coming in around 3 p.m. Wednesday, shortly after a protest group calling itself Rise and Resist dropped a banner that read 'Abolish ICE' from the base of the statue." Anna Werner reported in the lead story for the [CBS Evening News](#) (7/4, lead story, 2:00, Golodryga, 5.7M) that "one of the people from that group...told us that the woman who then subsequently climbed up into the base or on the base of the Statue of Liberty is a member of their group. ... When they went out there all together today, they did not know, they say, that she was planning to do this. They say she did this unilaterally."

The [New York Daily News](#) (7/4, Tracy, 3.71M) reports that first responders grabbed the woman who climbed the base of the statue, "identified as Therese Okoumou," after she "had began waving her shirt, which read 'Rise & Resist' on one side and 'Trump Care Makes Us Sick' on the other." Rehema Ellis reported in the lead story for [NBC Nightly News](#) (7/4, lead story, 2:10, Snow, 8.26M) New York City was "on high alert for the Fourth of July. Police say there have been no credible threats to the city, but they're taking no chances." Ellis added that "authorities are investigating how a security breach like this could have happened."

The [New York Post](#) (7/4, Celona, Moore, Perez, 4.46M) cites "sources" who "said that Okoumou told investigators that she climbed up to the feet of Lady Liberty to protest President Trump's zero-tolerance policy on immigration and the separation of families at the border." She is "a Congolese immigrant who once filed a complaint with the New York City Commission on Human Rights – seeking a judicial review and reversal of a 'determination' it made regarding alleged incidents of abuse that Okoumou suffered at the hands of a social services agency on Staten Island where she worked."

[ABC World News Tonight](#) (7/4, story 4, 1:50, Llamas, 14.63M) also reported on the "tense standoff" at the Statue of Liberty, as do the [New York Times](#) (7/4, Rojas, 19.33M) and the [Washington Times](#) (7/4, Morton, 460K).

Nebraska Republican Party Office Vandalized With "Abolish ICE" Graffiti. [Breitbart](#) (7/3, Moons, 1.28M) reports the Nebraska Republican Party "posted photos on Tuesday of the smashed window at their campaign office and red graffiti reading 'ABOLISH ICE' on the nearby sidewalk." The group tweeted, "While they vandalize, we organize. @GOP #LeadRight Find your #Nebraska candidates and volunteer."

Protesters Erupt In Violence Outside Philadelphia ICE Building. The [Daily Caller](#) (7/3, Rodgers, 420K) reports protesters were arrested in front of an ICE building in Philadelphia on Tuesday "after violence erupted in the streets." The large group of protesters "has reportedly been outside since Monday," but it "is unclear how many protesters were arrested Tuesday."

The [AP](#) (7/3) reports, "Police say more than two dozen people were arrested at a protest at the Philadelphia headquarters of the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency." According to the AP, "Protesters who camped out overnight are calling for abolition of the agency, an end to family detentions and closure of a detention center in Berks County," and "they also want city authorities to stop sharing arrest and court information with the agency." The AP adds, "A police representative says about 75 protesters were blocking the entrance to the ICE headquarters building in the city, refusing to allow anyone to enter or exit."

ADMINISTRATION PERSONNEL LINKED TO GROUPS PROFITING OFF BORDER DETENTION. The [New York](#)

[Times](#) (7/4, Protesse, Fernandez, Bennett, 19.33M) reports, “Many of the nonprofits, corporations and religious groups watching over migrant children detained at the southwest border have been in this business for years,” and it is “becoming clear that some of the players in this billion-dollar industry have particularly strong ties to the Trump administration.” Education Secretary DeVos “provided funding to one of the groups,” and Defense Secretary Mattis “sat on the board of another. Mr. Trump’s own inauguration fund collected \$500,000 from two private prison companies housing detained migrant families. And some of the contractors employ prominent Republican lobbyists with ties to Mr. Trump and his administration, including someone who once lobbied for his family business.”

ADVOCATES SAY DISTRESS OVER CHILD SEPARATION HURTING ASYLUM-SEEKERS IN INTERVIEWS. The [AP](#) (7/4, Spagat, Schmall) reports, “Some immigrants complain that they stumbled through their first asylum interviews when they were deeply distraught over losing their children. The interviews can have life-changing consequences because they are critical to establishing why families cannot return home safely,” and advocates say that their mental state at the time of the first session can lead to deportation. Volunteer attorneys “say parents are distressed about losing their children and having no firm date for when they will reunite, putting them at a big disadvantage when they meet with asylum officers.”

WPost Opposes Administration Stance On Detaining Migrant Families. A [Washington Post](#) (7/4, Board, 15.68M) editorial takes issue with the Trump Administration argument that “a new court ruling ordering that separated children be promptly reunited with their parents amounts to a green light for federal officials to detain them – together,” calling it an attempt to “turn a federal judge’s reunification ruling last week, based partly on grounds of compassion, into a rationale for extending the current administration’s cruel crusade against migrant families.” The Post says the Administration’s position “is antithetical to American values, offensive to the law and an affront to decency.”

HHS BLAMES CONGRESS FOR DELAYING FAMILY REUNIFICATIONS. The [Washington Times](#) (7/3, Dinan, 460K) reports HHS “chided members of Congress on Tuesday for all the demands to visit the dorms where illegal immigrant children are staying, saying the hundreds of hours it took to show facilities to lawmakers could have been better spent reuniting parents and children.” HHS’ Office of Refugee Resettlement “said more than 70 lawmakers have been granted access to government-run dorms for unaccompanied alien children, absorbing nearly 500 hours of staff time.” HHS Assistant Secretary Matthew D. Basset said, “Many of these hours would otherwise have been spent by ORR field and grantee staff verifying parental relationships to prevent child trafficking, facilitating check-in calls between parents and children, facilitating and reviewing foster family home studies, coordinating the delivery of food and medical supplies, and many other duties vital to the health and welfare of the children.”

HHS REFUSING TO GIVE UPDATED STATISTICS ON CHILDREN SEPARATED FROM FAMILIES. [CNN](#) (7/3, Shoichet, 82.6M) reports that the Department of Health and Human Services said on June 20 that there were 2,053 immigrant children who have been separated from their families under its care, but the agency has “refused to specify how many kids from separated families remain in custody” since June 26. HHS said in a statement, “As HHS continues to evaluate the impact of the District Court ruling, and given the constantly changing number of unaccompanied alien children in our care (every day minors are referred to our care and released from our care to parents, close relatives or suitable sponsors), we are providing the total number of unaccompanied alien children in the care of HHS-funded grantees.”

OFFICIAL: DNA TESTING BEING DONE ON SEPARATED MIGRANT FAMILIES. [CNN](#) (7/5, Moghe, Chavez, 82.6M) reports, “DNA testing is being conducted as part of the process to reunite children who were separated from their parents at the border, a federal official with knowledge of the reunifications told CNN. ‘The safety and security is paramount and that it is not uncommon for children to be trafficked or smuggled by those claiming to be parents. To our knowledge this is a cheek swab and is being done to expedite parental verification and ensuring reunification with verified parents due to child welfare concerns,’ the official said.” CNN adds, “The source could not discuss how long the practice has been taking place, if the testing requires consent and if the DNA is stored in a database.” Jennifer K. Falcon, “communications director for RAICES, a nonprofit in Texas that offers free and low-cost legal services to immigrants and refugees, called the move deplorable because collecting such sensitive data would allow the government to conduct surveillance on the children ‘for the rest of their lives.’”

ACLU CALLS ON ADMINISTRATION TO STOP OFFERING TO REUNITE FAMILIES AFTER PARENT’S DEPORTATION. The [Washington Post](#) (7/3, Sacchetti, Gerberg, 15.68M) reports the ACLU is calling on the Administration “to stop distributing a government form that offers to reunite detained migrant parents with their children once the parents are ready to be deported from the United States.” On June 26, a federal judge halted family separations, and “federal officials said they created the form to comply with the judge’s order and ensure that parents and children can be deported together. Parents may also opt to leave without their children, who may seek permission to remain in the United States on their own.” The ACLU, however, is “concerned that detained parents desperate to locate their children may sign the form and give up their right to try to remain in the United States in order to get their children back.”

[Courthouse News](#) (7/4, Solis) reports, “The ACLU filed the class action in February, challenging the government’s separation of families seeking asylum and was brought forth on behalf of Mrs. L, a Congolese mother and her 7-year-old daughter who were separated thousands of miles for months after crossing the U.S.-Mexico border in San Diego.” According to CN, “Now in their second amended complaint, the ACLU says U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents use fear tactics to coerce parents with the promise of being reunited with their children. ‘The government is also using the trauma of separation to coerce parents into giving up their asylum and protection claims in order to be reunited with their children,’ according to the complaint filed federal court.”

The [Huffington Post](#) (7/3, Chapin, 4.32M) reports that ICE officials “are telling detained migrant parents that to be reunited with their children they must sign a voluntary deportation form, according to lawyers who spoke to HuffPost.” According to the Post, “The paperwork, which HuffPost reviewed, gives migrants the option to be reunited with their children before leaving the U.S. or to be deported without them, and it is addressed to parents who have been given ‘final orders of removal’ – meaning they have been rejected from seeking asylum,” but “attorneys say that their clients who are still going through the asylum process have been pressured to sign the form and that ICE agents are misleading parents into believing that voluntary deportation is the only way to be reunited with their kids.” ICE spokesperson Jennifer D. Elzea “said the form is only being circulated to migrants with final orders of removal. ‘As is stated on the very top of the form, this form only applies to parents with a final order and who are part of a specific class action suit,’ she wrote in an email to HuffPost. ‘This form has absolutely nothing to do with those who have pending asylum claims.’”

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/4, Caldwell, Armour, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) reports that Elzea “said the agency has had a ‘longstanding’ policy of giving parents about to be deported a choice of being sent home with or without children,” and that “the new form is specifically for parents who were separated from their children at the border under the administration’s zero-tolerance policy.”

[NBC News](#) (7/3, Ainsley, Soboroff, 5.76M) reports, “The Trump administration has instructed immigration agents to give those parents two options: leave the country with your kids – or leave the country without them, according to a copy of a government form obtained by NBC News.” According to NBC News, “The new instructions to agents do not allow parents who were separated from their children under President Donald Trump’s ‘zero tolerance’ policy to reunite with their children while they await a decision on asylum, a protection sought by thousands of migrant families fleeing violence in Central America.”

However, the [Washington Examiner](#) (7/3, Giaritelli, 340K) reports, “The Department of Homeland Security slammed two NBC reporters for publishing on Tuesday afternoon what it called a ‘factually inaccurate’ story that stated illegal immigrant parents were given a choice of being deported with or without their children as the only way to be reunited after being separated for illegal entry.” According to the Examiner, “Julia Ainsley and Jacob Soboroff reported the only way the Trump administration will allow family units to be reunited is if the parent agrees to be deported and have his or her asylum request rescinded,” and “then the parent can return home with or without the child.” A DHS spokesperson told the Washington Examiner “that the policy being referenced has existed for ‘decades’ and that Ainsley misinterpreted comments U.S. officials made in response to a recent court order and never asked DHS for comment. ‘She doesn’t know what she’s reading,’ the DHS spokesperson said over the phone when asked about the information in the story.”

SESSIONS RESCINDS DOJ GUIDANCE ON REFUGEES, ASYLUM SEEKERS’ RIGHT TO WORK. [MSN](#) (7/3, 6.31M) reports, “Attorney General Jeff Sessions on Tuesday rescinded a 2011 Justice Department guidance mandating that asylum seekers and refugees have a ‘right’ to work in the U.S.” MSN adds, “The Obama-era document was included on a list of 24 Justice Department guidances that Sessions scrapped because he said they were ‘unnecessary, outdated, inconsistent with existing law’ or imposed without congressional approval. ‘That’s wrong, and it’s not good government,’ Sessions said in a statement.” According to MSN, “The 2011 guidance, which was issued by the Office of Special Counsel for Immigration-related Unfair Employment Practices, ensured asylum seekers and refugees were ‘authorized to work indefinitely’ and could obtain Social Security cards ‘without employment restrictions.’” The guidance “also barred employers from demanding Department of Homeland Security-issued immigration documents from refugees and asylum seekers as long as they could present Social Security cards or American driver’s licenses.”

[The Hill](#) (7/3, Thomsen, 2.71M) reports, “A Justice Department spokesperson told The Hill that the document was rescinded after a 2014 document laid out similar guidelines, including those on refugees and asylum seekers being allowed to work indefinitely.” The department “also rescinded a 2009 guidance that told employers to ‘avoid “citizens only” hiring policies or requirements that applicants have a particular immigration status,’ unless doing so was required by law.”

JUDGE BACKS CITIES, STATES SUING ADMINISTRATION OVER CENSUS QUESTION. [Reuters](#) (7/3, Pierson) reports that at a Manhattan federal court hearing Tuesday, US District Judge Jesse Furman ordered the Administration “to hand information about its plan to ask people filling out the 2020 census form whether they are US citizens over to a group of states and cities suing the administration over the question.” Reuters says Furman “also said he would likely

deny the administration's motion to dismiss the lawsuit." The [Washington Times](#) (7/3, Dinan, 460K) reports New York Attorney General Barbara D. Underwood, who is leading the lawsuit, reacted, "Today marked a major win in our lawsuit to protect the Census."

CONNECTICUT EXTENDS DEADLINE FOR YOUNG IMMIGRANTS TO APPLY FOR LEGAL STATUS. The [AP](#) (7/4, Haigh) reports, "Connecticut has joined a handful of states in providing particularly vulnerable immigrant youth additional time to apply for a federal legal status that could eventually lead to their permanent residency in the U.S." Under a new law that took effect on July 1, "immigrants who are 18, 19 and 20 years old and who've been abused, neglected or abandoned, can now ask a state probate court judge to determine if they're eligible to apply for a federal status known as special immigrant juvenile status." The AP adds, "It's different from DACA, the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, which does not provide a path to citizenship in the U.S." New York, California, Washington and Maryland "have passed laws similar to Connecticut's," and "New Jersey's existing statutes have been interpreted to include the 18-to-20-year-olds, while courts in Massachusetts extended the state's jurisdiction."

TRUMP TWEETS CLAIM OBAMA GRANTED US CITIZENSHIP TO 2,500 IRANIANS UNDER NUCLEAR DEAL. The [Washington Times](#) (7/3, Muñoz, 460K) reports in a Tuesday morning [tweet](#), President Trump "accused" former President Obama "of awarding citizenship to Iranian officials during the Iran nuclear deal negotiations." The charge, adds the Times, comes from "Iranian claims in a Fox News report," specifically, Iranian member of parliament Hojjat al-Islam Mojtaba Zolnour. In response, former State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf said, "This sounds like totally made-up B.S." and the State Department replied to a Fox News query, "We're not going to comment on every statement by an Iranian official."

[CBS News](#) (7/3, 6.78M) reports that after a "senior Iranian cleric" made the claim, President Trump "jumped on the story." CBS added that former Obama aides "are saying that there is zero truth to Zolnour's claim."

Rouhani Says Iran Will Respect Nuclear Deal If Interests Preserved. [Reuters](#) (7/3, Graf) reports speaking in Switzerland, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said Tehran will "continue to respect its nuclear agreement with world powers as long as its interests are preserved." [CNBC](#) (7/3, 4.81M) reports Rouhani is meeting with "the leaders of Austria and Switzerland in a bid to save the" P5+1 deal, but "trying to do so could cause a 'very messy dispute' between the US and Europe, according to one expert." Behnam Ben Taleblu of the Foundation for Defense of Democracies said, "The US will increase non-nuclear pressure on Iran, the European banks and businesses will side with Washington while European politicians will try to create or carve cutouts to the international sanctions architecture, and all this makes for a very messy dispute for the US and its allies."

Iran Links Anniversary Of Downing Of Iran Air Flight In 1988 To Current Woes. The [AP](#) (7/3, Gambrell) reports mourners "tossed flowers from a helicopter and a ferry into the Persian Gulf off the coast of Iran on Tuesday to mark the 30th anniversary of the US Navy shooting down an Iranian commercial airline, which killed 290 people." The Iranian government continues to point to the downing of Iran Air flight 655 by the USS Vincennes on July 3, 1988 to emphasize its "decades-long distrust of America." Today, as Iran "grapples with America pulling out of the nuclear deal with world powers, officials linked their current woes to the 1988 disaster, insisting again that the U.S. cannot be trusted."

US, Israel Reportedly Formed Joint Working Group To Support Protests In Iran. [Axios](#) (7/3, Ravid, 2.49M) reports that the US and Israel have "formed a joint working group" to "encourage protests within Iran." Axios calls it "a major example of the Trump administration's policy shift in the region." Axios adds that the working group and its efforts "were discussed during a meeting between national security adviser John Bolton and his Israeli counterpart Meir Ben-Shabbat." While neither US nor Israeli officials would confirm the report, "both Israel and the US started using social media to convey anti-regime messages to the Iranian people," including some by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and US Secretary of State Pompeo, who "wrote a series of tweets" encouraging protests, "criticizing mass arrests of protesters," and "highlighting the regime's growing funding of the Revolutionary Guards Corps."

WSJournal: Protests, Sanctions Increase Pressure On Iran's Government. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/3, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) editorializes on recent protests in Iran, commenting that they are in reaction to the government's use of money to support adventures abroad rather than providing for the people, and that President Trump's withdrawing from the nuclear agreement is putting more pressure on the government and coming sanctions will increase that pressure.

POLL: 58 PERCENT DISAPPROVE OF TRUMP'S HANDLING OF IMMIGRATION. [Politico](#) (7/3, Nelson, 3.51M) reports that "more than half of American voters surveyed by Quinnipiac University for a recent [poll](#) said they disapprove" of the President Trump's handling of immigration. "Just 39 percent of those polled said they approve of Trump's handling of immigration, while 58 percent said they disapprove. But 50 percent of respondents said they believe the motive" behind the President's immigration policies is "a sincere interest in controlling our borders." The [Washington Times](#) (7/3, Dinan, 460K) reports the poll also found that both the Administration and congressional Democrats "are seen to be exploiting the

issue for political gain.”

HARVARD/HARRIS POLL: 70% SAY US NEEDS STRICTER IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT. [Breitbart](#) (7/4, Binder, 1.28M) reports that the latest Harvard/Harris Poll shows that a “majority of white, black, and Hispanic Americans agree that the United States needs stricter enforcement of its immigration laws.” According to the poll, “77 percent of white voters, 53 percent of black voters, and 51 percent of Hispanic voters said they believe the US needs to crack down on immigration laws. Overall, 70 percent of Americans said the US needs stricter immigration enforcement, not looser enforcement as Democrats and the Republican establishment has pushed for.”

CHURCH PUTS HOLY FAMILY IN “ICE DETENTION” TO PROTEST TRUMP’S IMMIGRATION POLICIES. The [Washington Post](#) (7/3, Phillips, 15.68M) reports Christ Church Cathedral in downtown Indianapolis erected a chain-link fence surrounding statues of Joseph and Mary, cradling baby Jesus in her arms to protest the detention of families under the Administration’s “zero tolerance” policy. The Rev. Stephen Carlsen, the church’s dean and rector, said Joseph and Mary “were not any different from migrant families fleeing violence from their home countries.”

GUATEMALAN ASYLUM SEEKER: AMERICANS “DON’T HAVE HEARTS.” [Breitbart](#) (7/3, Caplan, 1.28M) reports that a Guatemalan migrant who was “reunited over the weekend with her young daughter” after crossing the US-Mexico border “has a message for asylum seekers: find refuge in another country because Americans ‘don’t have hearts.’” Buena Ventura Martin-Godinez told CNN the Administration’s immigration policies are “harsh. And people don’t have hearts.”

“ANGEL FAMILIES” CHAMPIONED BY TRUMP HAVE BECOME A POLITICAL FORCE. The [New York Times](#) (7/4, Vogel, Rogers, 19.33M) reports that since President Trump first reached out to “angel families” – relatives of people killed by illegal immigrants – they “have grown into a political force, helping him justify the most unpopular aspects of his administration’s immigration crackdown, and championing other candidates and causes devoted to limiting illegal immigration.” The Times calls the relationship between Trump and the families “mutually beneficial, and deeply felt,” and adds that the families “provide a powerful rejoinder to criticism of Mr. Trump’s hard-line approach to immigration as heartless.” The Times adds that “several of the parents said in interviews that they stand ready to champion Mr. Trump’s re-election campaign, and they are not waiting for 2020 to use their newfound political clout. They are helping to raise money and build support for advocacy groups of their own, as well as for 2018 campaigns focused on limiting immigration.”

QUINNIPIAC POLL: 44% SEE “RACIST BELIEFS” BEHIND TRUMP IMMIGRATION POLICY. The [Huffington Post](#) (7/4, Lavender, 4.32M) reports that according to a Quinnipiac University poll released Tuesday, 49 percent of voters believe President Trump “is racist, while 47 percent said he’s not. ... Forty-four percent of voters said they think ‘racist beliefs’ were a motive in Trump’s immigration policy, while 50 percent said Trump has ‘a sincere interest in controlling our borders.’ Sixty percent said the policy of separating children from their parents at the border was a violation of human rights.” While only 11 percent of Republicans polled “said they think Trump is a racist, 22 percent said they believe Trump has emboldened racist people to express their beliefs publicly.”

Chris Cillizza writes on the [CNN](#) (7/4, 82.6M) website, “Half the country – HALF – thinks the elected President of the United States harbors racist views. That’s a remarkable finding. ... When you dabble in casual racism – whether purposely or accidentally (and it’s hard to know which one Trump is doing each time), some decent-sized chunk of people are going to believe that you are – wait for it – a racist.”

NATIONAL JOURNAL ANALYSIS: DEMOCRATS UNDERPERFORMING AMONG HISPANIC VOTERS. [National Journal](#) (7/4, Kraushaar, Subscription Publication, 35K) reports that despite President Trump’s “hard-line immigration policies,” Democrats “are underperforming in heavily Hispanic constituencies, from GOP-held border battlegrounds in Texas to diversifying districts in Southern California to the nation’s most populous Senate battleground in Florida.” National Journal cites examples from house races across the country and says that if “immigration is a winning issue for Democrats in the midterms, it’s because they’re winning over suburban white women, not because they’re mobilizing Hispanic voters against Republicans. Indeed, even as Democrats underperform in these pivotal races, the historic gender gap is what’s propelling them to a possible House majority.” National Journal calls it “an uncomfortable reminder to Republicans who championed the Republican National Committee’s infamous 2013 autopsy report claiming the party needed to moderate its position on immigration to win back Hispanic voters.”

LOS ANGELES ADDING \$10 MILLION TO IMMIGRANT LEGAL AID FUND. [The Hill](#) (7/4, Chalfant, 2.71M) reports that the Los Angeles City Council and county Board of Supervisors have “approved \$10 million in funding for legal aid for immigrant children separated from their families at the southern border.” The funds will be added to “the LA Justice Fund, a public-private partnership established last year to help immigrants facing deportation proceedings.”

SMITH: ICE’S CURRENT POLICIES SHOULD BE STOPPED. Rep. Adam Smith was asked on [CNN’s Situation Room](#)

(7/4, 699K) if calls to abolish ICE are “going overboard.” Smith said, “It’s not going overboard to say that we should stop what ICE is doing right now, that we should stop their policies. And I wouldn’t even have a problem with saying, ICE, as it’s currently constituted under the Department of Homeland Security, we should get rid of it. But look, obviously, you have to have some form of immigration enforcement. And in talking about abolish ICE, most of the people I’ve heard talk about that are really talking about the policies. They’re not talking about open borders and talking about not having immigration enforcement. But that immigration enforcement should be aimed at protecting our country, not terrorizing people in the community who pose no threat to our country.”

Immigration Enforcement:

ICE OPERATION AT IOWA CONCRETE PLANT DIVIDES TOWN. The [New York Times](#) (7/3, Gabriel, 19.33M) reports that the detention of 32 workers at a concrete plant in Mount Pleasant, Iowa has “opened fissures among the town’s churches and secular leaders, and brought an abstract national issue painfully close to home.” The Times adds that President Trump’s immigration crackdown “has been promoted with biblical righteousness by senior members of his administration, including Attorney General Jeff Sessions. And in heartland communities where the president is popular, the crackdown is often debated – by supporters and critics alike – through the lens of Christian morality.”

GUATEMALAN MOTHER TRAVELS ACROSS US TO FIND CHILDREN. The [New York Times](#) (7/3, Angotti-Jones, Correal, 19.33M) reports Yeni González, who was detained by Border Patrol after entering into the US illegally in mid-May, drove from Arizona to New York to find her three children – Deyuin, Jamelin, and Lester – that were separated from her when they entered the US. While she was held in detention centers in Arizona, her children were sent to a shelter in New York. While she still needs to meet “a long list of requirements from the federal government” to regain custody of her children, she was able to see them.

Honduran Boy Cast As Symbol Of Reunification Challenges. Yale University graduate student Karla Cornejo Villavicencio writes in the [New York Times](#) (7/3, 19.33M) that “when Brayan was 9 years old, in 2016, his mother was brutally raped and murdered in Honduras.” He and his father, José, were also threatened “so José vowed to bring Brayan to safety in the United States.” When the two arrived at the California border in May, Brayan’s father “presented himself and his son for asylum.” José was jailed for 20 days, “asked to sign papers in English he did not understand and was deported to Honduras. Brayan was flown to a shelter for children in Maryland.” Brayan’s grandmother, a 48-year-old undocumented immigrant living in Florida, is trying to become his sponsor. Villavicencio argues that Brayan’s story “shows just how hard the government is making the reunification process, and why every step of the zero-tolerance policy is needlessly traumatizing for thousands of children and their families.”

IDAHO COUNTY STANDS BY HONORING ICE DETENTION HOLDS. The [Idaho Mountain Express](#) (7/4, Murdock) reports, “Amid a shifting legal and political backdrop, the Blaine County Sheriff’s Office has stood by a longstanding policy of cooperating with Immigration and Customs Enforcement to detain suspects beyond their scheduled releases upon the agency’s request.” The Express adds, “Questioned by the Idaho Mountain Express about why he continues the policy, that was as much justification as Sheriff Steve Harkins would provide,” but “in the time since the policy was implemented, ICE has changed, alongside the administration that operates it, and working with the increasingly assertive agency may open up Blaine County to legal liability – as it has to others elsewhere in the country.” According to the Express, “The jail’s policy is to honor ‘detainers,’ or ‘immigration holds,’ from Immigration and Customs Enforcement – requests that a jail detain a suspected undocumented immigrant for 48 hours beyond the time he or she would otherwise be released so ICE can take custody of the person and initiate removal proceedings.”

ARIZONA COUNTY BOARD TOLD ONLY SHERIFF CAN KICK ICE OFFICERS OUT OF JAIL. The [Arizona Daily Star](#) (7/4, Ferguson, 296K) reports, “A fight brewing over whether the Pima County Board of Supervisors can kick U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers out of the county-run jail might be over.” Deputy County Attorney Regina Nassen “told supervisors in a confidential memo last week that such a decision largely rests with Pima County Sheriff Mark Napier and not the supervisors.” The Star adds, “The sheriff – not the board – has general authority to operate the jail, and while the board controls the sheriff’s budget and has authority to make a few other specific fiscal decisions concerning jail operations, it cannot do so in a way that unreasonably interferes with the sheriff’s discretionary decisions, she wrote.” The board voted on Tuesday “to release the 13-page legal analysis, including a letter sent by the American Civil Liberties Union that outlined legal arguments as to how the supervisors could force Napier’s hand and push out the federal agency.”

MIGRANT LOCKUP TO OPEN ON SITE OF DESTROYED TEXAS PRISON. The [AP](#) (7/4) reports from Raymondville, TX, “Officials in a remote South Texas county have approved a contract to open a privately run, 1,000-bed immigration lockup on the site of a tent city prison that was destroyed during a 2015 riot.” Willacy County commissioners on Monday “agreed to the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention center outside Raymondville, about 50 miles from the U.S.-Mexico border city of Brownsville.” The AP adds, “County Judge Aurelio Guerra says the new lockup will boost

the local economy.” According to the AP, “The prison that housed 3,000 inmates in tent-like domes closed after the 2015 uprising,” and “a county lawsuit blamed the riot on ‘abysmal mismanagement’ by Utah-based Management & Training Corp.”

HONDURAN MAN HELD IN GEORGIA MOVED CLOSER TO SON IN ARIZONA. The [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) (7/3, Redmon, 1.09M) reports, “A Honduran man who was separated from his 3-year-old son and detained in South Georgia amid the Trump administration’s crackdown on the southwest border was moved this week closer to the government shelter where his boy is being held in Arizona.” According to the AJC, “Jose – he asked that his full name not be published because he has received death threats in his homeland – was transferred to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s Eloy Detention Center in Eloy, Arizona, this week.” His son “is about 70 miles northwest in a government shelter in Glendale, Ariz.,” and “they have been separated for more than a month.” Jose, “a 27-year-old farmer, was transferred from Stewart Detention Center in Lumpkin, Ga., to the Folkston ICE Processing Center near the Georgia-Florida border,” and “then he was taken to a facility in Florence, Arizona, before he arrived in Eloy Monday, said his attorney, Peter Isbister,” who “has asked ICE to release him so he can be reunited with his son while their asylum claim is being considered.”

TEXAS SHERIFF DEFENDS “ZERO TOLERANCE” ARRESTS. [McClatchy](#) (7/3, Martinez, 81K) reports that “a local sheriff in Texas is defending his recent ‘zero tolerance’ operation that netted 24 arrests, 23 of whom were defendants with Hispanic surnames, according to the Austin American-Statesman.” According to McClatchy, “Thirteen of those 23 were subsequently seized by Immigration and Customs Enforcement for deportation hearings, KVUE reported.” The operation “took place June 23 in the immigrant-heavy Stoney Point neighborhood in the town of Del Valle, just east of Austin.” Bastrop County Sheriff Maurice Cook “called it ‘routine’ in a news release posted on Facebook, saying that ‘zero tolerance’ in this case only meant that if a traffic law was broken some sort of enforcement action would be taken by deputies conducting traffic stops in the area. ‘The initiative had nothing to do with immigration,’ Cook wrote in the release.”

ICE GIVES FLORIDA RESTAURANT MANAGER 30 DAYS TO CONTEST REMOVAL. The [Palm Beach \(FL\) Daily News](#) (7/3, Cohen, 38K) reports, “Francisco Javier Gonzalez’s ankle monitor was removed and the Palm Beach restaurant manager was given 30 days to contest a reinstated removal order in a meeting with immigration officials Tuesday.” Gonzalez “was given the 30-day extension the same day he was supposed to board a plane to Mexico on the orders of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE),” but “instead, ICE reversed its orders last week,” and “officials told Gonzalez to cancel his one-way plane ticket to Mexico after they found several issues with the reinstated order of removal they had issued Gonzalez, which included a paperwork error, according to his lawyer, Richard Hujber.” ICE “gave Gonzalez a modified reinstatement of his removal order Tuesday, and his lawyers, Hujber and Rebeca Sanchez-Roig, will have 30 days to contest the reinstatement.”

TEEN DETAINED AT BORDER TELLS OF “ICEBOX” CAGES WITH 60 GIRLS. [Bloomberg News](#) (7/3, Larson, 4.46M) reports, “A 15-year-old girl who was forcibly separated from her mother after fleeing to the U.S. from El Salvador described to a Washington State investigator how she was crammed into a windowless room with 60 other girls and deprived of proper sleep or food for three days.” According to Bloomberg News, “The room was divided by wire fencing into three cages, with each one holding 20 separated girls – some as young as 3 years old, according to an affidavit filed late Monday in federal court in Seattle,” and “the girls, who weren’t told when they’d see their parents again, called it the ‘icebox.’ ‘The place was freezing because they kept the air conditioner on all the time, and each child was given a mat and an aluminum blanket,’ the investigator for Washington Attorney General Bob Ferguson wrote.” The affidavit “is part of a lawsuit by 17 states and the District of Columbia that seeks to block the child-separation policy on constitutional grounds.”

Criminal Investigations:

PENNSYLVANIA MAN CONVICTED OF HIDING PAST AS LIBERIAN WAR CRIMINAL. [Philly \(PA\)](#) (7/3, Roebuck, Brennan, 551K) reports, “A Delaware County man accused of hiding his past as a top lieutenant to Liberian warlord Charles Taylor was convicted Tuesday on federal immigration fraud charges – the second historic verdict of its kind in Philadelphia and one that renewed calls for further accountability in the West African nation where war criminals have gone unpunished for decades.” Thomas Woewiyu, “a 73-year-old Collingdale grandfather and former spokesperson and defense minister for Taylor’s National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL), is the highest-ranking official to be found guilty of crimes tied to the numerous documented atrocities that occurred during Liberia’s first civil war – a multifaction conflict that ravaged the country between 1989 and 1997.” Woewiyu’s conviction “comes months after a Liberian expat in East Lansdowne – Mohammed ‘Jungle Jabbah’ Jabateh – was sentenced to 30 years in prison in a similar case tied to misdeeds committed while fighting against Taylor’s forces.”

Secret Service:

SECRET SERVICE WARNS OF DANGERS OF CREDIT CARD SKIMMERS. [ABC News](#) (7/3, Thomas, Barr, Sands, 1.85M) reports that as July 4 travel “heats up,” the Secret Service “is warning motorists, businesses and police of a disturbing surge in criminals’ stealing credit information at gas pumps.” Fraudsters “are installing a tiny device called a skimmer inside the gas pump.” Matthew O’Neill, assistant to the special agent in charge of the Criminal Investigative Division, describes that process of “skimming.” ABC adds that this past weekend, the Secret Service “fanned out across the nation – at more than 80 locations in 21 states – hunting for the devices.” They “recovered 59 skimmers from 85 locations during the initiative.” [USA Today](#) (7/3, Hafner, 11.4M) reports that the agency said in a release, “The Secret Service is leading the charge to protect the U.S. consumer against this growing cyber-enabled financial crime.” [CBS News](#) (7/3, Gibson, 6.78M) ran a similar report, as did the [New York Post](#) (7/3, Steinbuch, 4.46M) and [Fortune](#) (7/3, Shoot, 3.91M).

MAN CHARGED WITH ASSAULTING SECRET SERVICE OFFICER OUTSIDE WHITE HOUSE. The [AP](#) (7/3) reports that Steven Carmona, a Maryland man, is “accused of assaulting a uniformed U.S. Secret Service officer outside the White House while shouting for officers to kill him.” Carmona was “was released from jail Tuesday and charged with assault. Court documents say an officer told Carmona he couldn’t park in a crosswalk near the White House. They say Carmona then ‘squared-off’ against an officer and was taken to the ground by officers.” Carmona “then punched one officer twice in the face.” The [Washington Post](#) (7/3, Hermann, 15.68M) reports that authorities “said Carmona was shouting, ‘Where is the president?’ and told officers, ‘Just end it, just kill me.’”

The [Daily Caller](#) (7/3, Phippen, 420K) reports that Secret Service officer Tyler Young “might have suffered a concussion and a knee injury. It’s not clear whether the man identified as Carmona was part of the Families Belong Together rally, which attracted thousands to rally in front of the White House.”

TEXAS WEALTH MANAGER SENTENCED TO 12 YEARS FOR SECURITIES FRAUD. The [Dallas Morning News](#) (7/3, Quigley, 1.05M) reports, “Frisco wealth manager Bobby Guess was sentenced to 12 years in prison as part of a plea bargain stemming from charges of more than \$6 million in fraud, money laundering, theft and engaging in organized criminal activity.” Guess, 66, “was sentenced Tuesday in Collin County court for one count of securities fraud greater than \$100,000,” and “charges of property theft, money laundering and engaging in organized criminal activity were dismissed as part of the plea.” The Texas State Securities Board “alleged that Guess and his firm, Texas First Financial, fraudulently promised 9 percent annualized returns and was selling investments without being registered as a securities dealer.” Guess “was indicted in December 2016 after an investigation by the TSSB and the U.S. Secret Service.”

Emergency Response:

FEMA CONTACTS HOTELS AFTER JUDGE ORDERS MORE TSA BENEFITS FOR MARIA-DISPLACED PUERTO RICANS. A judge’s order prompted FEMA to begin letting hotels know that Hurricane Maria-displaced Puerto Ricans will have Transitional Sheltering Assistance (TSA) benefits for several more weeks, according to many of the news outlets covering that order. An [AP](#) (7/3) article said a Massachusetts-based judge has “granted an extension of a restraining order” that kept Maria-displaced Puerto Ricans eligible for TSA benefits. A statement released by FEMA said agency representatives will comply with the judge’s decision and let hotels know that such benefits can still be used to pay for rental costs incurred by Maria-displaced Puerto Ricans. The [New York Times](#) (7/3, Mazzei, 19.33M) reports FEMA spokesperson William Booher “said in a statement that hotels would be notified of the judge’s continuation of the temporary restraining order.” A separate statement put out by FEMA “said it was extending until Aug. 1 the deadline for hurricane victims living in motels...to obtain free airfare to fly home” to Puerto Rico.

The [CNN](#) (7/3, Sanchez, 82.6M) website, [Reuters](#) (7/3, Roulette), and the [Boston Globe](#) (7/3, Guerra, 945K) are just three of the many other news outlets covering this story.

Cyber News:

OPINION: MANDATORY “BACKDOORS” IN TECHNOLOGY RAISE PRIVACY CONCERNS. Chris Howell, CTO of secure communications company Wickr, writes in [The Hill](#) (7/4, Howell, 2.71M) that the most recent round of “data protection improvements in communication apps and devices has fueled what may be the loudest security vs. privacy debate about whether the U.S. government can mandate extraordinary access or so-called ‘backdoors’ in every technology to circumvent the progress the industry has made in protecting personal and business data.” Howell argues that those who believe that backdoors do not violate the Fourth Amendment “may be technically correct” in some ways, but they “are missing a more important point” that the “slippery slope gets scarier as you go down.”

US JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO RELEASE REPORT ON COMBATING CYBER THREATS. [Politico](#) (7/3, Starks, 3.51M) reports the US Department of Justice “will soon release a report describing how its many agencies and

components tackle cyber threats.” The report was delivered to Attorney General Jeff Sessions last week, “four months after Sessions created a cyber task force to study DOJ’s role in areas like election security, botnets, encryption and data breaches.” DOJ’s Cyber-Digital Task Force was charged with examining ways in which the Justice Department “can better coordinate its law enforcement and digital defense work, which occurs through agencies like the FBI and the Drug Enforcement Agency and components like the Criminal Division, the National Security Division and local U.S. attorney’s offices.”

TECH INDUSTRY LOBBYISTS FIGHTING CALIFORNIA’S NEW PRIVACY LAW. The [Washington Post](#) (7/3, Hawkins, 15.68M) reports in “The Cybersecurity 202” that tech industry lobbyists “are pushing for changes to the recently passed California Consumer Privacy Act, which contains the country’s strongest data privacy protections and could significantly change the way they do business.” Tech companies are concerned that the new law “could hamper their operations and herald tougher regulation on the national level in the wake of controversy over how these companies share users’ data.” While tech companies are not lobbying for specific changes, they are “making clear they intend to play a major role in negotiations over the coming months.”

STATES MOVING TO PREPARE FOR CYBERATTACKS AHEAD OF MIDTERMS. The [Christian Science Monitor](#) (7/3, Richey, 298K) reports security experts are warning ahead of the midterms that “the nation’s election infrastructure will once again come under assault by hackers seeking to undermine American democracy.” Yet, these election-related systems are “already under attack,” according to election officials, who say they can receive thousands of attempts to break into their systems every day. It remains unclear “if the US is ready for another round of election-related attacks in the cyber-shadows.” Some states have proposed adding voting machines that support paper ballots, but “part of the reason for the delay is cost.” The Monitor notes DHS since 2016 has set up the Election Infrastructure Information Sharing and Analysis Center, which can “share recovered information” on election networks “and provide a warning system for other states.”

ISRAEL SAYS HAMAS TRIED TO USE MALICIOUS SMARTPHONE APPS TO INFILTRATE MILITARY. The [Washington Post](#) (7/3, Eglash, 15.68M) reported Israel told journalists that the army had detected “at least three malicious phone applications...that contained malware designed to infiltrate networks and steal data.” The army official “said Hamas operatives posing online as young, attractive and, in most cases, female Israelis attempted to lure young Israeli recruits via Facebook and WhatsApp to download the apps.” The malware, once embedded, “can read text messages, view visual content and other documentation stored on the device, as well as allow outside sources to listen in on conversations and take photographs remotely.”

PENTAGON SAYS VENDORS NEED TO ACCOUNT FOR CYBERSECURITY IN ACQUISITION PROCESS. [MeriTalk](#) (7/3) reports the Department of Defense, recognizing cybersecurity threats are on the rise, “wants to bake security into its acquisition process, adding more security requirements to traditional contracting benchmarks like cost and completion schedules.” Defense officials have “cited China’s consistent efforts to steal U.S. military technology, comparing it to physical encroachments such as China’s build-out of artificial islands in the South China Sea, which has become a major point of contention between Washington and Beijing.”

CHINA MOBILES UNABLE TO ACCESS AMERICAN WEBSITES IN US. The [Washington Post](#) (7/4, Fish, 15.68M) reports China Mobile users in the United States “are often unable access to American websites and apps that are banned in China.” A Chinese journalist “said she couldn’t access Facebook or the New York Times in the United States with her China Mobile number. Even Google Maps is banned, leading to some frustrating travel experiences.” On Monday, the Commerce Department recommended the FCC deny China Mobile a license based on security concerns.

[The Verge](#) (7/3, Liao, 1.55M) also reports on this story.

US ALLOWING ZTE TO TEMPORARILY RESUME SOME BUSINESS ACTIVITY. [Bloomberg News](#) (7/3, Leonard, 4.46M) reports the Commerce Department is allowing ZTE Corp. to temporarily resume “some business activities while the US weighs ending a seven-year ban on the Chinese telecommunications company, according to a document obtained by Bloomberg News.” The authorization is “valid from July 2 until Aug. 1.” Bloomberg says that “while it wasn’t immediately clear when a permanent order will follow, a person familiar with the matter said ZTE is expected to be in compliance with US demands by Aug. 1.” [The Hill](#) (7/3, Breland, 2.71M) also reports the move, citing Bloomberg.

[Politico](#) (7/3, Hendel, 3.51M) reports on the move by the Commerce Department, adding that lawmakers “from both parties insist ZTE is a national security threat and merits harsher punishment.” In fact, the Senate voted 85-10 in June to approve a defense bill reinstating tough penalties on ZTE, and while Trump “gathered Republicans for a closed-door meeting June 20 to pressure them to water down the Senate language,” some lawmakers “remain unconvinced.”

CRYPTOCURRENCY EXCHANGE THEFT SOARS IN FIRST HALF OF 2018. [Reuters](#) (7/3, Chavez-Dreyfuss) reported

cybersecurity firm CipherTrace said on Tuesday that “theft of cryptocurrencies from exchanges soared in the first half of this year to three times the level seen for the whole of 2017, leading to a three-fold increase in associated money laundering.” The report “showed that in the first six months of the year a total of \$761 million was stolen from digital currency exchanges, compared with about \$266 million for the whole of 2017.” CipherTrace estimated the losses could reach 1.5 billion this year.

HOUSE PANEL ADVANCES BILL REQUIRING DOD BRIEFING ON INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT FOR CYBER OPERATIONS. [ExecutiveGov](#) (7/3, Edwards) reports the “House Armed Services Committee’s defense policy bill would direct the Defense Department to conduct a briefing on intelligence support for cyber operations by Dec. 1.” The provision “seeks to advance efforts to resource intell analysis support at the U.S. Cyber Command and cyber components within service branches and standardize a common doctrine for the battlefield’s intell preparation for cyber-related operations.”

COCA GROWERS RUN CYBERCAMPAIGN IN SUPPORT OF BOLIVIAN PRESIDENT. The [Washington Times](#) (7/4, Arostegui, 460K) reports Bolivian coca growers “have organized a social media offensive to silence critics of leftist President Evo Morales, who is seeking a fourth term in office despite the result of a 2016 referendum in which 51 percent of Bolivians rejected a proposal to drop term limits.” Morales, during his 12 years in office, has legalized the cultivation of coca leaves, expelled US counternarcotics agents, and “showered the coca-growing valley of Chapare with major public works projects, including an international airport.” As a result, local farmers “have become one of the country’s most powerful special interest groups. They now say they want to return a favor to the president, a onetime coca grower and union leader.”

KRISTOF: US UNDER-PREPARED FOR A SERIOUS CYBERATTACK. Nicholas Kristof writes in his [New York Times](#) (7/4, Kristof, 19.33M) column about the threat of “an all-out cyberattack,” considering how hostile countries like Russia and China “have implanted malicious software in the American electrical grid, nuclear power plants and water systems to have the capacity to mount such attacks – and we have done the same to them.” He says that if North Korea “responded to the Sony Pictures movie ‘The Interview’ by blowing up cinemas, it might have faced a strong response. Instead, it hacked into Sony’s system, destroyed computers and paralyzed the company.” Kristof says the US needs to “establish a cost to cyberattacks and help establish norms for cyber – a Geneva Convention for hacking.” In the meantime, “we are becoming ever more vulnerable” to hacking.

SECURITY EXPERT SAYS USB FAN FROM TRUMP-KIM SUMMIT CONTAINS NO MALICIOUS SOFTWARE. The [Washington Post](#) (7/3, Shaban, 15.68M) reported a security research disassembled a USB miniature fan given to journalists attending the US-North Korea summit in Singapore last month and “found no malicious software functionality inside the fan.” According to the Post, security experts “say USBs are a common way for hackers to gather information or infect devices.”

EUROPEAN FINANCIAL FIRM’S MAIN CYBER THREAT ARE COMPANY INSIDERS. The [Financial Times](#) (7/3, Arnold, Subscription Publication, 1.36M) reports former UK intelligence officer Dave Palmer says the biggest cybersecurity threat for European financial services companies are breaches by their own staff.

NEW YORK POLICE REPORTEDLY USE GRAYKEY TO ACCESS IPHONE DATA. [Forbes](#) (7/3, Fox-Brewster, 10.34M) reports that “this week Forbes obtained a successful application for a court order...to allow the Special Narcotics Prosecutor for New York to use GrayKey to unlock a pair of iPhones.” Jerome Greco, staff attorney at the Legal Aid Society, “told Forbes his team was waiting to learn what data was actually obtained from the devices.” Forbes points out that “GrayShift was launched in the months proceeding the San Bernardino terrorist incident in 2016, when the FBI asked Apple to help it access the iPhone 5C of shooter Syed Rizwan Farook.” Former FBI director James Comey and his replacement Christopher Wray “continued to push industry to come up with solutions to allow access to encrypted phones. But this year, it became clear private industry had developed techniques to access Apple systems.” However, Forbes says, “just recently Apple released an update for iPhones that appeared to counter GrayKey’s effectiveness. ... But Grayshift claimed its tools still worked as marketed.”

Terrorism Investigations:

FBI ARRESTS CLEVELAND TERROR SUSPECT. [USA Today](#) (7/3, Kendrick, 11.4M) reports that “the FBI announced Monday they had arrested Demetrius Pitts, also known as Abdur Raheem Rafiq, 48, of Maple Heights, Ohio, for allegedly plotting an attack in Cleveland on July 4 for al-Qaida.” According to the FBI, “the man they call ‘an al-Qaida wannabe’ first came to authorities’ attention in 2017 with anti-American messages on Facebook.” On Monday, FBI Special Agent Stephen Anthony, of the Cleveland Division, said, “Pitts suggested words to the effect ‘I did tell myself that their holiday is coming up, the 4th of July. Independence day. What would hit them in the core? Blow up. Have a bomb.’” In addition, “the FBI believes he was planning a bombing in Philadelphia similar to the one at the Oklahoma City Federal Building in 1995.” White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Monday that “President Trump commends the work of the

DOJ and the FBI in helping stop this would-be attacker.”

The [Cleveland Plain Dealer](#) (7/3, 1.03M) reports that “the announcement – the shock, the uneasiness, the sense of a crisis averted – harken back to a similar moment six years ago, when law enforcement agents described at a news conference an interrupted terrorist scheme to blow-up a well-traveled bridge, before the plot had the chance to play out in the chaos and carnage of an actual attack.” The report says “the case highlighted the FBI’s aggressive commitment to rooting out terrorism, homegrown or otherwise. But it also left the agency vulnerable to widespread criticism about its use of paid informants and whether the defendants would have followed through with the bombing had an undercover agent not supplied them with the resources.”

In an editorial, the [Cleveland Plain Dealer](#) (7/4, 1.03M) says the arrest is “a reminder of how much Americans owe covert intelligence for avoiding a repeat of that terrible September day when al-Qaida operatives delivered mass murder from the air.” Mike Vogel also writes at [AM New York](#) (7/4, Vogel, 591K) that despite recent attacks on the FBI, “on Wednesday, the people of Cleveland got to watch their Fourth of July parade and fireworks in safety, thanks to the FBI.”

ATF RELEASES IMAGE OF BAG CONNECTED TO MYSTERIOUS CENTRAL PARK EXPLOSION. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/4, Kanno-Youngs, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) reports that the ATF has released an image of a bakery bag that it says is connected to a Central Park explosion two years ago that injured one man and remains unsolved. The Journal says the bag bears the words “La Unica,” and is believed to be from La Unica Bakery in New Jersey.

The [New York Times](#) (7/4, Rojas, 19.33M) also reports.

JUDGE VOIDS PAKISTANI NATIONAL’S CONVICTION FOR AIDING AL QAEDA. [Reuters](#) (7/3, Stempel) reports that “a Manhattan federal judge on Tuesday voided the November 2005 conviction of a Pakistani man for conspiring to help an al Qaeda operative enter the United States, saying new evidence cast doubt on the defendant’s guilt.” Reuters explains that “Uzair Paracha, 38, has been serving a 30-year prison term for allegedly helping Majid Khan obtain travel documents, after Khan plotted with al Qaeda leaders to bomb underground storage tanks at Maryland gas stations.” However, “U.S. District Judge Sidney Stein said newly discovered statements made by Khan, al Qaeda operative Ammar al Baluchi and Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the accused mastermind of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, called into question whether Paracha knew he was helping al Qaeda.”

DOJ FILES LAWSUIT TO RESCIND CITIZENSHIP OF MAN WHO PROVIDED SUPPORT TO TERRORISTS. The [Washington Examiner](#) (7/3, Correll, 340K) reports the Justice Department filed a lawsuit to strip the US citizenship of a naturalized Chicago man who pleaded guilty in 2009 and was convicted of supplying material support to terrorists. According to the Times, Khaleel Ahmed, originally from India, and his cousin traveled to Cairo “with plans to participate in activity that would kill or hurt U.S. military forces.” Their activity started while Ahmed was a permanent resident in the US, but he was arrested after he obtained his naturalized US citizenship. The civil denaturalization complaint claims “that Ahmed was intentionally deceptive and hid his criminal behavior during his naturalization proceedings.”

FORMER DETAINEES CALL FOR INQUIRY INTO UK ROLE IN US RENDITION, ENHANCED INTERROGATION. [The Guardian \(UK\)](#) (7/4, Rawlinson, 4.03M) reports that a group of former nine former British nationals and residents who were “detained by the US at ‘secret prisons’ in Kandahar and Bagram, in Afghanistan, and at Guantánamo Bay” wrote a letter to the Guardian arguing that a judicial inquiry should be launched into the extent of Britain’s involvement in the rendition, false imprisonment, and torture by the US during the war on terror. They said reports released by the UK’s parliamentary intelligence and security committee last week confirmed everything they had “been saying over the course of almost two decades, that British intelligence services were willfully complicit in our kidnap, false imprisonment, torture and other mistreatment.” The letter also criticizes the lack of action taken by the US. The authors [write](#) (7/4, Letters, 4.03M), “We are...painfully aware that reports and inquiries of the government by the government into its own abuses have not resulted in justice. For example, the US Senate published a report in 2014 that admitted CIA agents had extraordinarily renditioned and tortured 119 prisoners during the course of the ‘war on terror’. Despite admitting these war crimes, no prosecutions against the perpetrators have ever taken place.” They continued: “On the contrary, since then the US has elected a president who believes that ‘torture works’ and who has appointed someone who ran a torture facility to head the CIA, despite reports alleging she ordered the destruction of evidence documenting torture. He has also signed an executive order to keep Guantánamo open. Therefore, there must be meaningful accountability in the very highest corridors of power to ensure that such crimes never recur.”

Other DHS News:

DAVID BROCK RESEARCHER BELIEVES NAZIS HAVE INFILTRATED DHS. The [Washington Free Beacon](#) (7/3, Scher, 67K) reports that the head researcher at David Brock’s American Bridge 21st Century research shop “is convinced by the Twitter-born conspiracy” that Nazis at DHS “use numerical code to transmit white supremacist messages through

its press releases.” According to the Free Beacon, Dennis’ interest in the conspiracy “was piqued almost immediately after Twitter user Laurie Voss initially pointed out last Thursday that a DHS press release from February was filled with what Voss saw as Nazi code.” Voss argued the release “had both a 14-word headline and 14 bullet points (it actually has 13 bullet points), important because 14 is the number of words in ‘a famous white supremacist slogan’ that, just like the DHS headline, starts with ‘we must secure.’”

Global Media:

GERMANY AND AUSTRIA MOVE TO TIGHTEN BORDERS. The [Washington Post](#) (7/3, McAuley, 15.68M) reports that “the fallout was swift the morning after German Chancellor Angela Merkel reached an uneasy late-night immigration compromise with hard-line coalition allies, an agreement that appears to have saved her fragile government, at least for now.” According to the Post, “To keep her government intact, Merkel was essentially forced to abandon the ‘Willkommenskultur,’ or culture of welcoming, that she had preached in 2015, when she welcomed nearly 1 million migrants and refugees into Germany.” The Post says, “Facing a potential insurrection from Horst Seehofer, her interior minister...Merkel agreed that migrants will no longer be able to enter Germany from Austria without any checks, that they will be processed in ‘transit centers’ at the border, and that an agreement would be made with Austria in the event that migrants ineligible for asylum are not accepted back by the European Union countries where they first arrived.”

The [New York Times](#) (7/3, Eddy, 19.33M) reports that “Austrian leaders announced plans on Tuesday for similar actions that would further threaten Europe’s system of free movement.” According to the Times, “Although the number of people applying for asylum in Germany has dropped significantly in recent months, most of those who make it are crossing the Mediterranean and making their way north through Austria.” [Reuters](#) (7/3) quotes Austrian Chancellor Sebastian Kurz as saying, “Should this agreement become the German government’s position, we see that as prompting us to take action to prevent negative consequences for Austria and its population.” Reuters reports that the Austrian government “has repeatedly said it will at least match any German measures on its own borders further down migrant routes, such as those it shares with Italy and Slovenia.”

[Reuters](#) (7/3) says Merkel “has not resolved the underlying tensions in her coalition. But a dearth of credible challengers to lead her Christian Democrats (CDU) and a general fear among many Germans of the far-right keep her hanging on, possibly even to the next election in 2021.”

TWO SICKENED IN ENGLAND NEAR SITE OF EARLIER POISONING. The [New York Times](#) (7/4, Barry, 19.33M) reports British authorities have begun “a large-scale security investigation after two people collapsed near Salisbury, the city where, four months ago, a former Russian spy and his daughter were exposed to a lethal nerve agent.” The two victims, “a man and woman, both in their 40s, fell ill on Saturday” in Amesbury, “about eight miles north of Salisbury. They had earlier visited gardens near the spot where the spy and his daughter lost consciousness, the police said.” The two are in critical condition at Salisbury District Hospital. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/4, Fidler, Horner, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) reports that a counterterrorism official said that it was not clear if the agent was from the same batch as that used on the Skripals.

The [CBS Evening News](#) (7/4, story 5, 1:45, Golodryga, 5.7M) reported that British authorities say the couple, who became critically ill last Saturday, were poisoned by “the same nerve agent [used] to poison double agent Sergei Skripal and his daughter Yulia in March, an attack Britain blamed on Russia.” However, [NBC Nightly News](#) (7/4, story 5, 1:50, Snow, 8.26M) reported that “British counterterrorism officials said there’s no evidence the couple were specifically targeted.” [ABC World News Tonight](#) (7/4, story 7, 1:45, Llamas, 14.63M) reported that investigators are retracing the couple’s last steps. The [Daily Mail \(UK\)](#) (7/4, White, 3.93M) reports that “more than 100 counter-terrorism officers along with local Wiltshire police have locked down every place the couple went after their exposure in a bid to retrace their steps.” They have “also dragged along friends of the known drug addicts and grilled them on where” Dawn Sturgess and Charles Rowley “went after they were exposed – potentially in a Salisbury park.”

[USA Today](#) (7/4, Onyanga-Omara, James, 11.4M) reports that “public health officials said there is not believed to be a significant health risk to the public, but this ‘will be continually assessed as further information becomes known.’”

[The Guardian \(UK\)](#) (7/4, Morris, Bannock, Dodd, Marsh, 4.03M) reports that the pair “were in Queen Elizabeth Park, in Salisbury, the night before they fell ill, leading to speculation that they could have come into contact with residue of the novichok used in the Skripal attack. Police sources dismissed as speculation one theory that the Skripal nerve agent could have been prepared in the park ahead of the attack.”

[Reuters](#) (7/4, Nicholls) reports that Britain “has accused Russia of poisoning the Skripals with Novichok – a nerve agent developed by the Soviet military during the Cold War – in what is the first known offensive use of such a chemical weapon on European soil since World War Two.”

[CNN](#) (7/3, Beech, Grinberg, Smith-Spark, 82.6M) also reports on the incident, as does [NBC News](#) (7/4, 5.76M).

ISIS CONFIRMS AL-BAGHDADI'S SON KILLED IN SYRIA. The [AP](#) (7/4, El Deeb) reports ISIS said "the son of its top leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi has been killed fighting Syrian government forces." The announcement of the death of Huthaifa al-Badri "appeared on the group's social media accounts late Tuesday." The statement, "dated this month, said he was an elite fighter, known as an 'inghimasi,' who was killed while fighting Syrian and Russian troops at a power station in the central Homs province. It did not specify when he was killed."

WPOST ANALYSIS: SADR'S RULE OF SAMARRA PROVIDES CLUES TO NATIONAL ROLE. The [Washington Post](#) (7/4, El-Ghobashy, Salim, 15.68M) reports Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr's rule of the Iraqi city of Samarra's reflects his "evolution from public enemy to enforcer of order and provides potent clues to how he will play his new part in ruling Iraq." In May, Sadr's "ticket won an unexpected victory in Iraq's national elections," and "he is in a strong position to shape Iraq's next government and select the nation's leader." The Post says that the performance of his militia, now known as the Peace Brigades, in Samarra "suggests Sadr has genuinely shed his earlier sectarianism and is committed to healing the Sunni-Shiite wounds that have corroded Iraq's society and security."

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